

# Meteor-Heraut

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## Quick Read

### In General

#### West Point Founders Day

A West Point Founders Day dinner for graduates, ex-cadets, cadet parents, former faculty and friends is set for March 19, 7 p.m., at a Belgian Army Officer's Club in Brussels. All-inclusive price is Euro 55 or \$72 per person. Dress is formal. Call C. Westpheling at 010 810-345 or email at charles.westpheling@usa.net. for information

#### Future leaders meet

Future Business Leaders of America host a conference March 23-25 at Edelweiss Hotel in Garmisch, Germany. Students ages 14-18 from American schools in Europe test business knowledge and skills. Info: Bertha Manning, Ramstein High School, DSN 480-6951, or 49 6371 476-6951, or Bertha\_Manning@eu.dodea.edu.

### Belgium

#### SHAPE/Chièvres/Daumerie shuttle bus boosts service

The 80th Area Support Group, Directorate of Logistics, Transportation Division recently revised the shuttle bus schedule. The new schedule increases service to make the shuttle bus a more viable transportation option. Call 423-4571 for info.

#### AFAP news for Brussels

Army Family Action Plan *delégate training* is March 1, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at ACS, Building 4, top floor conference room, NATO Support Activity, Brussels. Call 368-9643 for info.

### Netherlands and Germany

#### Arts and Crafts Festival

An Arts and Crafts Festival is set for Feb. 27, 2-6 p.m., at the JFC Arts & Crafts Center, Bldg. H 607. Call 364-2454 for more info.

#### V Corps to replace

#### XVIII Airborne Corps in Iraq

The Department of Defense recently announced Headquarters, V Corps, Heidelberg, Germany, and major subordinate units of the Corps will deploy to Iraq in support of the Operation Iraqi Freedom. V Corps is scheduled to replace XVIII Airborne Corps as the headquarters for the Multi-national Corps-Iraq in early 2006.

Major V Corps subordinate units scheduled to deploy include the 3rd Corps Support Command, V Corps Artillery, 205th Military Intelligence Brigade, 130th Engineer Brigade, 22nd Signal Brigade and 30th Medical Brigade, are all based in Germany.

## African-American snapshots

The people of Africa have had a profound influence on the world. Involuntary migration in the form of slavery moved Africans to distant lands where across the generations, they have now become tightly woven into the fabric of that region's humanity. Here are five stories sampled from Benelux region that illustrate African presence in the United States military services today.

By Rick Haverinen

### Realizing a dream

Chief Warrant Officer Three Dieufort Dieujuste was born in Haiti and came to the United States in the spring of 1982 when he was about 30. A school in Boston had offered him a scholarship to study English, but he didn't quite make it there.

"I made it to New York where I have some relatives, and from there I went to New Jersey before school started," Dieujuste said, "and I received some advice, 'If you want to study English why go to Boston? Just go to college here.' And then I met my wife, and one thing led to another, and I joined the military."

Dieujuste said he noticed some differences in African-American culture between living in Haiti and the U.S.

"Back home, it's everybody knows everybody, and you don't have to be invited to come over and sit down and talk," Dieujuste said. "We look the same of course, but everywhere we go, as soon as I open my mouth, somebody will say, 'Where are you from?' And for those of us from the Caribbean, the shock is the weather. We could not comprehend why the



PHOTO: Rick Haverinen

Chief Warrant Officer Three Dieufort Dieujuste and his wife Geraldine worship in the Gospel church service in Daumerie Caserne chapel in Chièvres Feb. 13. Both hold elder positions in the congregation.

sun is shining, and it's so cold."

Dieujuste said the U.S. Army career has advanced his financial situation.

"I didn't have the education I have today," Dieujuste said, "and I didn't have the luxuries that I have here, the home I live in, a stable profession. I've had tremendous blessings, and when I look back to the same people I used to know back home, I can see a world of difference, and I credit that all to God."

A man of faith, Dieujuste is an elder deacon in the Gospel congregation that meets at the chapel on Daumerie Caserne in Chièvres.

"I was always dreaming that someday I would go into the U.S.," Dieujuste said. "I can tell you, I was really poor in Haiti. When I look at my life then and today, I can tell you I am truly

blessed."

The vision of the immigrant may be especially perceptive when he starts out with little and better his situation.

"It's just like President Kennedy said, it's not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country," Dieujuste said, "and what can you do for yourself? It's there. Just go and get it."

Dieujuste said the history of Haiti may have been an influence on the Civil Rights Movement in the U.S.

"Haiti is the first Black independent nation in the world, gaining its independence from France in 1804," Dieujuste said, "and it was the second independent country in the Western Hemisphere after the U.S."

Dieujuste now uses the ac-

counting skills he got in college in his work administrating the food service program for U.S. Army NATO.

"I would like people to know the United States is truly the land of the free. It is the place where people can reach the sky if you want to. People cannot limit you in reaching your goals."

### Polishing a lifestyle

Yeoman 2nd Class Berwyn Tinnion of U.S. National Military Representative, SHAPE, has used his Navy career a path to put some distance from a somewhat dicey younger adult life.

"Back when I got out of college in 1991, I started around at the time, just being out in the neighborhood, in the wrong place at the wrong time, gambling, drink-

See SNAPSHOTS Page 2.

## 80th ASG Team-Building a Future

By J.D. Hardesty

Mission. Vision. Goals. Team building. Overcoming obstacles.

They are all important to coaches in professional sports, chief executive officers of a major corporation and they are all important to Col. Dean Nowowiejski, commander of the 80th Area Support Group.

The 80th ASG's Program Analysis and Integration Office hosted a strategic planning conference in Mons, Belgium, "with people face to face to overcome the challenge of distance that separates 80th ASG units and the communities they support in the Benelux," Nowowiejski said of the conference designed to bring people together to communicate a long-range plan looking forward to 2012.

"We have great people, great leaders working for our organization and they have some powerful ideas," he said of those who were assembled to build teamwork and a shared vision while simultaneously getting group buy-in and setting long-range goals for the 80th

ASG's future. "I'm a big believer in leader development and this is leader development."

Facilitated by Jim Schmook, a consultant with Installation Management Agency-Europe, the organization's mission, vision and goals were placed on the conference table juxtaposed against the unit's mission essential task list (METL). Through buy-in and democracy, the group discussed and developed the following:

**The Mission:** Operate U.S. garrisons and support joint communities including NATO Headquarters, SHAPE, and JFC Headquarters-Brunssum in order to execute national defense strategy. Support theater lines of communication throughout Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, and the northern German states.

**The Vision:** To be an empowered team of U.S. and host nation professionals dedicated to our mission and making our communities the best places to live and work in Europe. From well-being to force protection, we build See CONFERENCE Page 2.



PHOTO: J.D. Hardesty

Jim Schmook, a consultant with Installation Management Agency-Europe, facilitated the 80th Area Support Group's Strategic Planning Conference held earlier this month in Mons, Belgium.

# Dessert with a mission



PHOTO: Rick Haverinen

**Katlyn Deal, 3, is the center of attention at a bake sale in the hallway outside the Silver Spoon Feb. 8 on SHAPE. Left to right behind Katlyn are Waltraut Neumann, Shari Odom, Jill Deal, and Doris Pauker is seated. The SHAPE Top Graders Wives' Club had the event to raise funds to help a family in the Maldives Islands that was hit by the Dec. 26 earthquake and tsunami in the Indian Ocean. The family was fortunate in that no one was killed, but all their property was lost. The club became aware of the family through a host nation employee. For more information, call Vendela Hesse, 065 730826.**

## SNAPSHOTS from Page 1

ing, hanging out with the fellas, and you tend to get in trouble," Tinnion said.

Tinnion, who is from Dallas, wasn't really adrift, because he was employed at the same time he was shooting dice.

"I worked from the time I got out of college until now," Tinnion said. "I always worked, but I always went back to the neighborhood when I got off work and I hustled and gambled."

At the time Tinnion was operations manager for a company selling vinyl construction products. He was making good money, but typical of many businesses who employ management people, the salary Tinnion earned meant he spent many long hours at the business and he was frequently traveling.

One day in 2000 while out fishing with



Tinnion

his father, the pair was approached by a Navy recruiter wearing his whites. Tinnion liked the crisp, clean look of the uniform. The recruiter, who knew his father, passed Tinnion his business card and asked him to call.

"He pretty much talked me out of my other job but I think it was a good transition," Tinnion said. "Two months later I was in the Navy."

Along with the job at the vinyl construction products company, Tinnion said he left the dice games back in Dallas.

"I look back at that lifestyle and that was the idiot side of me," Tinnion said. "I don't think anybody

should want to continue living that type or lifestyle. Just hanging out with the fellas was really the fun part. When you're there with the fellas and friends, that is your family when you're out there on the streets hanging out with those guys. I've just re-

placed it with sports, basketball, bowling, doing something constructive, something to take my mind off the streets. I really haven't had a will to go back that way."

That's stupid."

Tinnion said his neighborhood friends in Dallas are curious about his Navy career. "When I go home, normally they want to know, 'Why you did it and how is it?'" Tinnion said. "I just say, 'You have to learn to say, yes sir, and no ma'am.'"

That's all there is to it?" "That's it," Tinnion said. "I think if you don't have your mind made up what you're going to do, I think you should come to the military. It's a great opportunity."

## Still home after 40 years

An American member of the U.S. Air Force hasn't spent much time out of Europe throughout his life.

## Tour extensions granted

HEIDELBERG, Germany — All civilian employees who entered on active duty and took military leave or leave without pay from their civilian positions will have their overseas tour dates administratively extended for the equivalent of the entire period they served on AD upon returning to work.

Tour dates include both current tour end date and, if the employees had not worked overseas for five years prior to entering on AD, the five-year tour date.

If civilian employees entered on AD to participate in contingency operations for a period of 180 days or more, and their adjusted current tour end date is less than 18 months from the date they returned to work, an additional adjustment will be made to extend the tour end date to 18 months from the date of return to civilian duty.

This extension will ensure employees have at least one year before they have to either register in the DoD Priority Placement Program or inform their servicing Civilian Personnel Advisory Center that they plan on exercising their re-employment rights to a position in the Continental United States. It will also provide management sufficient time to determine if they wish to extend the employee's overseas tour.

For more information, refer to Army in Europe Pamphlet 690-14, Guide for Appropriated Fund Civilian Employees Who Perform Active Military Duty located at <https://www.aeaim.hqsareur.army.mil/library/pam/index-aep.shtm>.

The father of Tech. Sgt. Ray Wilson, 309th Airlift Squadron, was in the U.S. Army stationed on Stuttgart, Germany, when he met Wilson's German mother, Gertrude.

"They got married and went to the States at Fort Ord, Calif.," Wilson said. "From there my dad got reassigned to SHAPE headquar-

ters in Paris in 1964. (We left France) in 1967, and we came here to Belgium and pretty much been here ever since, until I joined the Air Force in 1990."

Wilson, who is the 309th's Communications Flight Maintenance Supervisor, was still a babe in arms when the family moved to Europe. He went

to Belgian public schools until he transferred to SHAPE American High School for his junior and senior years, and he was graduated

See SNAPSHOTS Page 3.



Ray Wilson

## From CONFERENCE Page 1

safer communities with an attitude of service, sound stewardship of resources, excellence in performance, devotion to values, development of leaders, and partnership with our host nations.

### The Goals:

*Provide a safe and secure living and working environment*

*Enable community well-being*

*Establish the culture of a learning organization with an empowered workforce*

*Practice sound stewardship and improve resource performance*

*Constantly improve customer service*

*Improve coordination and communication*

*Promote positive relationships with host nations and the three NATO Headquarters we support.*

Each attendee brought something to the process, but left with a newfound "big" picture emblazoned upon their minds as to how what they do fits together to support NATO, SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe) and Joint Forces Command communities.

"This is the first time in recent memory we have gotten the key leaders from around the ASG together to develop a common vision for the future," said Lt. Col. Richard S. Richardson, commander of the 254th Base Support

Bn. Schinnen, the Netherlands. "I think it is a powerful thing when you get all of those key leaders together to agree on a common vision and goals. That is going to put our organization in one direction."

"Colonel Nowowiejski could have given us vision and goals, but he allowed us to be part of the process representing all parts of the ASG," Richardson said of the conference. "As a group, we developed a vision for the future therefore, we all have ownership and buy-in that will allow us to achieve those goals."

Ownership and process, buy-in to the mission, vision and goals were the "key lessons learned" attendees said they took back to their offices from the conference.

"During the conference, I realized that the leaders of the 80th ASG footprint are extraordinarily talented and are dedicated to the concepts and strategy to make this community and excellent community," said Clarence Hammond, director of logistics at the 80th ASG in Chièvres, Belgium. "Although I work with the 80th ASG staff daily, I was impressed with the 254th BSB and NATO Support Activity participants."

"I was impressed by what every participant brought to the table, the many ideas and discussions made me grasp a wider per-

spective on the wholeness of the entire 80th ASG footprint," Hammond said. "Each location has a different set of priorities and goals that we were able to mold into a total 80th ASG strategy."

Jean-Christophe "Jay" Philippe, financial manager for the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, NATO Support Activity-Brussels, noted similar edifying experiences during the three-day conference. "Knowing exactly what the mission is, knowing what the commander's vision is, having worked with a great team on re-defining both is probably one of the best work experiences I've had so far," he said. "I know where to go from this point on. But I also believe that the biggest issue we now will face is to spread the word and make the workforce believe in it and stick to the plan."

Philippe said he took a different perspective of his job back to his office by asking himself, "What are our goals, where are we, and where do we want to go, and above all, what are our weaknesses? These are questions I never even thought about asking myself. I think, when you have a tunnel vision of what is going on, and don't think about going out of the box, you may be efficient at what you do, but you definitely aren't effective. And you have no tool to gauge if you are

on the right track."

With a new perspective, he rhetorically questioned and answered, "Do I accomplish my mission? Well, my mission, maybe, but does my mission stick to the 80th ASG's? I'm not sure."

It is that type of introspect leaders expressed when the conference concluded about Nowowiejski's "team-building leadership" as it transcended into teamwork, a valuable tool traversing across the borders of the Benelux footprint.

"The process of the strategic planning conference has been a valuable tool to allow this community to grow," Hammond said. "That brings the community together for a set of common goals. In the long run, all members of the 80th ASG will be committed catalysts achieving common goals."

The group cited "teamwork" as the instrumental tool that "must" be embedded amongst the organization's leaders to achieve its future objectives and goals.

"The 80th ASG is becoming more of a team organization and that teamwork will directly benefit servicemembers' families and units we support," Richardson said. "While we are developing objectives to meet these goals, the process to implement change will take months and years because we will continue to revisit, redefine

and improve our objectives. We will develop new objectives.... It is a never-ending process of improvement."

"Improvement is a never-ending process," Nowowiejski said. "If an organization doesn't have a strategic focus in the long-term, people work day to day, moment to moment with no vision. If you have goals, you can move forward."

According to Nowowiejski, "The conference created more opportunity for input, buy-in and a sense of shared vision and goals that yielded more powerful results," Nowowiejski said, though realizing his tenure of command would be long over before many of the iterated goals would be achieved.

"Initial success will be measured individually when each 80th ASG employee answers the question from here," he said, patting his chest over his heart. "Did I support the mission, was I a good steward, did I do all I could? Being able to answer 'yes' is truly the only measurable results that matter."

"Our host nations' supporting staff have a greater advantage and power in the planning process," he said. Because of their length of service, "their dreams and vision for the 80th will come to fruition before their eyes."



# NATO Security Forces train for deployment

**By G3, Headquarters, USANATO Brigade**

Preparation and training are pivotal to mission success downrange whether deploying as an individual or a unit. U.S. Army NATO leadership is ensuring readiness for U.S. Army NATO Soldiers deploying to the NATO-commanded International Security Assistance Force – Afghanistan, and NATO Training Mission – Iraq.

U.S. personnel continue to deploy in support of NATO operations expanding into Afghanistan and Iraq since the NATO Prague Summit in November 2002. USANATO Soldiers previously participated in the 1st Infantry Div.'s (IID) Individual Deployment Training program on a case-by-case basis. That option lapsed when IID ended its IDT program in November.

The U.S. Army NATO Brigade, headquartered in Mons, Belgium, immediately tackled the IDT mission and launched an inaugural round of deployment training Jan. 31, with the 80th Area Support Group supporting the work with billeting, classroom facilities, field sites, tactical vehicles and equipment. The 25 attendees from Mons; Brunssum, The Netherlands; Naples, Italy; and Madrid, Spain were afforded all the training, to standard, essential for preparation to deploy in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

"There's been a great deal of coordination and planning to provide our Soldiers realistic, meaningful preparation for

combat operations," explains Sgt. 1st Class Keturah Deleslin, the USANATO G3 Operations NCO, and the primary planner and NCOIC for IDT. Deleslin and her cadre of nine began their initial planning in October, completing 115 hours of training and earning IDT Instructor Certification credentials.

the IID IDT NCOIC and staff.

"By providing my staff a quality training experience and handover, Master Sgt. Michael Williamson and Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Wright solidified the groundwork that allowed USANATO Brigade to seamlessly pick up the IDT mission where

hostile environment with the confidence that tasks learned will enhance his or her ability to survive, and when necessary, to work as a member of a team.

IDT culminated with a two-day field scenario where Soldiers donned full combat gear and traveled in tactical vehicle convoys to execute mounted maneuver drills. Enemy role players executed sniper fire and ambushes while simulated explosive devices detonated along roadways and in ruined buildings. Students were expected to set up road blocks and take decisive action whether to fire their weapons at enemy role players who might, for instance, approach in vehicles stashed with weapons and explosives, or assess the role players as innocent civilians caught in the wrong



PHOTO: Rick Haverinen

**Spc. Myriam St. Fort and Staff Sgt. William Aaron treat role player Capt. Jang Suh who simulates a sucking chest wound from rifle fire, during Individual Deployment Training Feb. 3 on Chièvres Air Base. Sgt. Cesar Rodriguez is at left with M16 rifle. All four are members of AFSOUTH Bn., Naples Italy.**



Dillon

Lt. Col. Michael Dillon, the USANATO G3, credits Deleslin's detailed planning and investment in the cadre's own training for the success of the first course.

"Deleslin's motivation to provide solid training was evidenced by her focus on preparing her staff in every way possible," Dillon said. "Not only did she ensure the cadre had undergone the rigors of the IID IDT program, Deleslin also audited the training additional times to ensure every nuance of the USANATO IDT program was successfully executed to

standard."

Dillon also praised the professionalism of

IID left off, and continue to offer a viable training experience for deploying Soldiers," Dillon said.

For Soldiers serving in USANATO positions across Europe, IDT takes the place of the CONUS Replacement Center (CRC) preparation cycle, providing equal training and readiness while keeping Soldiers in the European Theater. Aside from the obvious drive to train Soldiers for deployment, the training timeline had to minimize the hours USANATO Soldiers were pulled away from their international missions. That requirement had to be balanced with the need to provide all the professional instruction necessary to enhance skills for the basic level of training during deployment. The program was designed to ensure every Soldier is prepared to operate in a

place at the wrong time.

Soldiers were ultimately forced to make critical decisions with limited information under tight timelines - all everyday mission realities for Soldiers serving in Iraq or Afghanistan.

"Every Soldier has the training and skills to handle the mission at hand," Deleslin noted. "Our goal was to sharpen these skills to a point where the Soldiers' actions are second nature when faced with the stress and confusion of combat."

The way ahead for Deleslin and the rest of the IDT cadre is to eventually conduct two training classes per month with 20-25 Soldiers in each cycle. About 400-500 trained, deployable Soldiers per year will then be ready to support any NATO mission.

## SNAPSHOTS from Page 2

there in 1982. He went back and forth to the States for college and landed back in the SHAPE area in 1988.

"When I came back here I was working for AAFES and also worked on SHAPE for Car City," Wilson said, "and it was time to move on to something else, because the jobs I had weren't really taking me anywhere."

Wilson was 26 when he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1990. He again is back home in Belgium, working out of his office on Daumerie Caserne in Chièvres.

Wilson said he never felt he missed out on anything by growing up in Belgium instead of the U.S.

"As a kid you don't really think about those things," Wilson said. "You're just happy-go-lucky and you're just going with the flow. Of course back in that time you still had some slight racial problems, but that kind of went away real quick. You're living here on SHAPE in an international community and you're just mixing with all kinds of people or different nationalities, different ethnicities, and it was a really good mix of people. I think you come out a better person, because you have a feel for other cultures and what other people might be thinking, so you can understand them better, than if you're always living in your one little community."

### Belonging to the right group

Like Ray Wilson, Staff Sgt. Shannon Wilson, (no relation) grew up in a military family.

"I grew up in 29 Palms, Calif., out in the middle of nowhere," Wilson said. "It's about two hours from Fort Irwin, that's also out in the middle of nowhere. It's pretty much a melting pot because it's a Marine Corps post. You've got all nationalities, all walks of life. But growing up, being that I'm mixed — my mother's white, my dad's black — I had a hard time fitting in either group. I wasn't black enough to be in the black group, I wasn't white enough to be in the white group, so I had issues with that growing up." The groups Wilson refers to were girls in her own age range.



Shannon Wilson

"For me it's more of a shade thing, whether it's light skinned or dark skinned," Wilson said. "I ended up in my senior year hanging out with the light skinned group, but there was a group that was dark skinned that used to fight with us all the time. That was the only real problems I ever really had. It was just girls. You know, it's a girl thing. That was pretty much the only problem I had. That was public school and it only lasted that school year." Wilson graduated from high school in 1987 and worked in the fast food restaurant industry and as a projectionist at a ten-screen cinema in Temecula. She enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1990 and she is now Information Systems Operations Analyst for 39th Signal Bn. on Daumerie Caserne. "Once I joined the military, I've never had any problems fitting in anywhere," Wilson said. "I've never had any problems with equal opportunity issues, with racial issues, heritage, religion, the whole span. When the (television) commercial says, 'Not in this Army,' when it comes to sexual harassment, it's also the same thing when it comes to equal opportunity."

### By Sylvia Bowron A family tradition

"My grandfather's pride in his Army service during World War II was one of the reasons I joined the Army," said Sgt. 1st Class Dave Williams, Equal Opportunity Advisor, 254th Base Support Bn., Schinnen, the Netherlands.

"I had been a St. Charles County Deputy Sheriff for five years and was at low ebb in my life," said Williams, a native of St. Louis, Mo. "I was tired of my job. One day I was walking through the local mall and was approached by a U.S. Army recruiter. I was married and knew I had to provide for my family, and he made the Army seem like good choice for me. I could have a job and be able to continue to take care of my family."

"My grandfather was born of a mixed-race couple. His mother was a slave," Williams said. "In the early 1900s my grandfather and uncle decided to walk from Baton Rouge, La. to St. Louis along the Mississippi

River. It took them between two and three weeks, and they did odd jobs to get by until they got there," said the 38 year-old Soldier.

"It was during that time he enlisted in the Army and served in World War II," Williams said proudly. "He never



Williams

talked much about his service except to say he was a supply driver in France and took supplies to other black units throughout Europe. He was proud to have served."

Williams, a 1990 graduate of Kansas State Univ., has been in the Army 11 years.

"I originally planned to stay on active duty for only three years," Williams said. "Twice when I had planned to get out, my wife was pregnant, so I decided to stay in a little longer." "I've enjoyed my time in the Army," said the supply specialist. "It's all been good."

Williams considers Fort Bragg as one of his best duty stations. "That is where I learned to be a leader," said Williams. "I was mentored by some good Soldiers, Command Sgt. Maj. Carlos Burgos and Sgt. Maj. Alonzo Smith. They groomed me and were constantly on me because I was a procrastinator."

Williams said he enjoys his job as equal opportunity advisor.

"As an advisor, I help ensure that equal opportunity exists for all Department of Defense employees and their families throughout the 254th BSB community," said Williams. "Our job is to prevent discrimination of any type, to ensure that each person is treated equally and fair, and to prevent sexual harassment."

Williams said he has no regrets about staying in the Army.

"Unemployment is high and getting a job is difficult, even if you have a degree," Williams said. "My brother has his bachelor's degree and still can't find a good job. I don't want to take that chance. Being in the Army helps ensure that I am always able to take care of my family and allows me to continue my education."



## *The community's link to Army Leadership*

“Volunteers will be put into groups of five or seven people,



**AFAP Volunteers discuss an issue at last year's conference.**



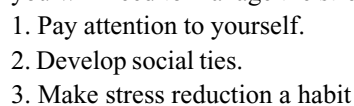
**Sheila Lee, Army Family Action Plan coordinator, prepares a list of recently received issues for the upcoming conference.**

Lee stated that should the issue affect the Army or DOD as a whole, they will go forward to Headquarters, Depart-

“Any military member, retiree, civilian or family members, can bring issues to help make the Army a better place to live and work,” Lee continued. “They can also become AFAP volunteers and be the voice of the community,” Lee said.

## Part 3 of 3

In modern humans these same changes occur, but rarely are they elicited by a situation that requires a physical response. The unused hormonal products then become harmful by-products of the



- I hope you have found these installments helpful. Be sure to look for the next Fitness Corner. In it I will speak to you on New Year's Resolutions: Understanding the Behavior-Change Process.

*Information compiled by Rob Kent, Cooper Certified Physical Fitness Specialist, AFPA Certified Nutrition Consultant. DSN: 360-7561 or Email: **rob.kent@benelux.army.mil** Some information taken from the Cooper Institute's Master Fitness Specialist Course and Certification Manual.*



# 254th BSB Tri-border News

## Schinnen celebrates African-American History Month

The Bi-Okoto Drum and Dance Theater entertained nearly 200 members of the Tri-border community Feb. 15, at the Schinnen Sports Center with lively dances and songs as part of the 254<sup>th</sup> Base Support Battalion (BSB) and Tri-Border Special Emphasis Program committee's African-American History Month food tasting and celebration.

The festivities began with a short, welcome by Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Dave Williams, 254<sup>th</sup> BSB's Equal Opportunity advisor, followed by Maj. Onerray Neal, the base assistant chaplain, who offered the invocation then Williams invited all to enjoy the food.

Participants enjoyed delectable menu consisting of items such as collard greens, baked beans, chicken wings, fried turkey and peach cobbler.

Once dinner was complete, the Bi-Okoto dancers began the entertainment with several spirited songs and dances from various countries from around the world such as Ghana and Haiti.

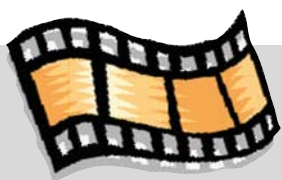
Jeanuita Olowe, the company's manager, encouraged audience participation and volunteers stepped forward. After being taught several movements, the newly trained dancers exhibited their newfound skills in a dance accompanied by a few Bi-Okoto performers.

The dance troupe is sponsored by U.S. Armed Forces Entertainment, and is on tour in the U.K., Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany.



Photo: Sylvia Bowron

The beat of the African drums sets the mood for the Bi-Okoto performers as they dance and sing to a welcoming audience at the Schinnen Sports Center.



## AFNorth Alliance Theater

**Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m. *Spanglish*.** Starring Adam Sandler, Tea Leoni. Rated PG-13. When the beautiful native Mexican woman Flor, the mother of a 12-year-old girl, becomes the housekeeper for an affluent Los Angeles family, cultures collide. Of all the horrifying pitfalls she worried about in this new culture, Flor had never fathomed the peril of being truly embraced by an upscale American family.

**Feb. 26, 5:30 p.m. *Lemony Snickets*.** Starring Jim Carrey, Timothy Spall. Rated PG. Violet, Klaus and Sunny Baudelaire are three intelligent young children who receive terrible news that their parents have died in a fire and have left them an enormous fortune not to be used until the eldest child is of age. They are taken in by a series of odd relatives and other people, including Lemony Snicket, who narrates the film, and the cunning and dastardly Count Olaf who is plotting to kill them and snatch their inheritance from them.

**8 p.m. *Closer*.** Starring Julia Roberts, Jude Law, Clive Owen. Rated R. An uncompromisingly honest look at modern relationships, *Closer* is the story of four strangers and their chance meetings, instant attractions, and brutal betrayals. Based on a play by Patrick Marber, the couples find out that love can disappoint when one of them experiences an affair. One man falls in love with his sweetheart at first sight, but, the characters later ponder, is there such a thing as instant passion?

**Mar. 4, 7:30 p.m. *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou*.** Starring Bill Murray, Owen Wilson. Rated R. Internationally famous oceanographer Steve Zissou and his crew set sail on an expedition to hunt down the possibly non-existent Jaguar Shark that killed Zissou's partner during the documentary filming of their latest adventure.

**Mar. 5, 4 p.m. *Ocean's Twelve*.** Starring George Clooney, Brad Pitt. Rated PG-13. Danny Ocean and his crew, having successfully stolen \$160 million from Las Vegas casinos jet

to Europe with three new heists planned. Meanwhile, casino owner Terry Benedict, whom Ocean and crew ripped off in Las Vegas, is hot on their tail, looking for revenge.

**7 p.m. *Meet the Fockers*.** Starring Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller. Rated PG-13. Now that Greg Focker is "in" with his soon-to-be-in-laws, it looks like smooth sailing for him and his fiancée Pam. But that's before Pam's parents meet Greg's parents. The Fockers and the Byrneses are woefully mismatched from the start, and there is just no bringing their families together.

**Mar. 11, 7:30 p.m. *White Noise*.** Starring Michael Keaton, Chandra West. Rated PG-13. Jonathan Rivers is contacted by a man who claims to be receiving messages from his dead wife through something he calls "Electronic Voice Phenomena" (EVP). Jonathan is at first skeptical, but then becomes convinced EVP is real and tries to contact her himself.

## Leisure Activities ~ by Rita Hoefnagels

**Feb. 25-28: *Tuinexpo Salland*.** This large regional garden fair takes place in Luttenberg (NL) near the town of Raalte (NL). Information: 31-(0)572-301763.

**Thru Feb. 27: *Antiqui Breda*.** About 45 antique and art dealers present their antique and art collection in the beautiful surroundings of the "Grote Kerk" (Large Church) in the center of Breda (NL). Entry: Euro 10. Information: 31-(0)76-5032797.

**Feb. 27: *International Carnival Parade*** through center of Maasmechelen (BE). Festivities start at 2:11 p.m.

**Mar. 1-6: *HISWA*,** a water sports fair at RAI in Amsterdam (NL). Visitors will find a jetty located in the middle of the fair, dozens of large sailing yachts and motor yachts and lots of accessories. Entry: Euro 13, children Euro 8.50. Information: 31-(0)20-5491212.

**Mar. 2-6: *International Stallion Show*,** a unique equestrian event with many

shows, demonstrations and beautiful horses held at IJsselhallen in Zwolle (NL). Entry: Euro 15, children Euro 10. Information: 31-(0)20-4655446.

**Mar. 3-6: *Home & Garden Fair*** at Expocentrum in Leeuwarden (NL). Entry: Euro 8; children Euro 4. Information: 31-(0)58-2941500.



**Mar. 4-13: *The European Fine Art Fair (TEFAF)*** is the worlds most important art and antique fair held at MECC in Maastricht (NL). Other items to be seen: silver, jewelry, furniture, books and 17<sup>th</sup>-century paintings by Dutch and Flemish masters. Admission is Euro 35 (includes catalogue). Information: [www.tefaf.com](http://www.tefaf.com) or call 31-(0)43-3838383.

**Mar. 6: Indoor "Brocante Markt"** is a

large flea market at Wijngaardsesteeg in Doorn (NL). The market/fair is divided into four segments: flea, antique, book, and nostalgia market.



Open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Entry: Euro 3, children Euro 2. Information: 31-(0)343-415554.

**Mar. 10-13: *Motor Fair*** at Jaarbeurs in

Utrecht (NL), featuring motorbikes, accessories, information and lots more. Entry is Euro 12. Information: 31-(0)76-5652235.

**Garden Variety,** a large indoor garden fair at IJsselhallen in Zwolle (NL). Entry: Euro 9. Information: 31-(0)38-4211843.

**Thru Sept. 4: *Mummies*,** a spectacular exhibition of mummies at Rijksmuseum van Oudheden in Leiden (NL). Entry: Euro 6; children (6-17) Euro 5.50. Information: [www.rmo.nl](http://www.rmo.nl).

## Tri-border News, Notes

### Volunteers recognized

Army Community Services holds its Volunteer Recognition Ceremony Apr. 19, 6p.m. Info: Teri Ryan at DSN 360-7451 or 0031 (0)46-443-7451.

### Community Events Calendar

The 254th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office will send a copy of the Community Events Calendar and/or Tri-border News Notes directly to any customer who asks to be included in the 254th BSB's update/news e-mail distribution list.

To sign up, visit the 254th BSB Public Affairs Office or send an e-mail to [lauri.garcia@benelux.army.mil](mailto:lauri.garcia@benelux.army.mil), include your name and DEROS and we'll be glad to e-mail this information directly to your work, home or both.



# 254th BSB Tri-border News

## 254th BSB Local Calendar

### Newcomers orientation briefing

A newcomers orientation briefing will be held Feb. 25, 8:45 a.m.-3.30 p.m., Schinnen, ACS, Bldg. 39. Info: DSN 360-7500.

### BOSS Chili Cook Off

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) will hold a Chili Cook-off, Mar. 2 from noon to 2 p.m. at Joint Forces Command (JFC) Brunssum at the U.S. Delegation. Sign up deadline is Feb.25. For more information or to register call DSN 364-2518 or 31 045-563-2518/3748.

### African American History Month

Celebration Dinner and Dance, Feb. 26, at 8 p.m. The dance, presented by the Benjamin F. Luke Lodge No. 127, offers an open food buffet at 8:30 p.m.

Special presentations will follow dinner, and dancing begins at 9:30 p.m.

For location and ticket information call: *AFNORTH* – Carlos Ramos at 0031 (0)64 609-7159; *Schinnen* – Harold Anderson at 0031 (0)46 443-7555; *Geilenkirchen* – Benjamin Luke at 0031 0049 2452 1860.

### Volunteer Advisory Council

The Volunteer Advisory Council will meet March 1, 10 a.m., Schinnen ACS, Bldg. 39, DSN 360-7500.

### Pre-Retirement Briefing

A pre-retirement briefing will be held March 4, 9-10 a.m., ACS, Resource Center, Bldg. 39, DSN 360-7500.

### Heerlen Hospital labor/delivery tour

The Army Community Services (ACS) New Parents Education and Support Program, host a tour of the Labor and Delivery department of the Heerlen Hospital Mar. 7, 12:30 p.m. Transportation will be provided from ACS, bldg 39. Registration is required and the deadline is Feb. 22. For more information call DSN 360-7395 or 0031 (0)46 443-7395.

### Army Career & Alumni Program

The Army Career and Alumni program will be held March 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Treebeek Education Center. Pre-registration required: DSN 360-7269.

### AFAP conference scheduled

The Schinnen Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Conference is scheduled for Mar.

10-11 at the JFC International Chapel, Brunssum.

The community is encouraged to support AFAP by volunteering as a delegate or by submitting issues throughout the community at various drop box locations or directly at the ACS office. Call Sheilla Lee at DSN 360-7263 or 31 46 443-7263 for information.

### Relationship Enhancement Program

A team from the Tri-Border's Installation Delivery System (IDS), which includes clinic personnel, is organizing a one-day couple's communication class which will be held at the Geilenkirchen Chapel, Mar 12, from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. This class will help Tri-Border couples develop stronger relationships and is by appointment only.

Breakfast/lunch and refreshments are available. Child care available by appointment only. For info or to register, call GK Life Skills Clinic at 49 245 199-3378. Points of contact are Maj. Connie Johnmeyer, Staff Sgt Vidalia Owens or Staff Sgt Charles Griffis.

### Child & Youth Services positions open

Child and Youth Services has the following positions open working directly with children 6 weeks – 5 years old. The CYPA Flex, generally works 20-35 hours/week and CYPA Part Time.; generally works 20-39 hours a week.

Starting salary \$9.06/hour (may be higher with past experience and training) and the position is located in Brunssum. Background checks are required. Free training provided and salary increases based upon training and experience.

Apply on-line at [www.chrma.hqusaureur.army.mil](http://www.chrma.hqusaureur.army.mil) (NAF positions) and watch the website for future positions working with older children and clerical positions!

If you would like to become certified to care for children in your government leased quarters, please apply for the Family Child Care Program. Applications can be picked up in Treebeek. For further information, please call: 364-6019

### Geilenkirchen clinic holiday closure

The Geilenkirchen U.S. Medical Clinic will be closed for the NATO holidays March 25-28 for Good Friday and Easter Monday.

For medical emergencies during this time, go to the nearest civilian emergency room.

Patients who do not have a 470th Medical Flight Clinic Handbook which lists emergency room directions should be sure to get and keep a copy of this booklet in their home. A copy of the latest edition, Nov. 2004, can be obtained at the TRICARE office.

Toll free access numbers to a confidential 24/7 health advice line staffed by U.S. nurses are as follows: Germany: 0800-825-1600; Netherlands: 0800-022-7944 and Belgium: 0800-71920.

### Anheuser-Busch announces 'Heroes Salute' for Sea World & Busch Gardens

Anheuser-Busch Cos. Inc. 'Heroes Salute' is offering a free single-day admission to its Sea World and Busch Gardens parks to active duty military, active reservists, U.S. Coast Guard, National Guardsmen. The program continues through Dec. 31, to honor U.S. Armed Services personnel.

Military personnel and their families who may be taking leave, or who have family in the states may take advantage of the program by registering at [www.herosalute.com](http://www.herosalute.com). Dependents may take advantage of the offer without their service member, though an adult must accompany minor dependents. For more information go to [www.herosalute.com](http://www.herosalute.com).

### Tobacco Cessation Class

The Geilenkirchen Wellness Center's (GKWC) next tobacco cessation class will be held Mar. 1, from noon to 1:30 p.m. and is open to all U.S. ID cardholders and their dependents who want to quit smoking or the use of tobacco products.

For a space in the next class please call 02451-99-3386 or stop by Bldg. 161 (old NATO gym). Pre-registration is required. Please feel free to bring your lunch to this meeting. Also, please note that pharmacy issued "Quit smoking aids" will only be available to patients who attend the tobacco cessation program.

### Tax office open

The Netherlands Law Center, Tax Assistance Office is open. To schedule an appointment, or for more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Alfred Cornelius, Senior Paralegal, Netherlands Law Center, at DSN 364-6204 or 0031 (0)45 563-6204. If schedule permits, walk-in clients will be seen.

**SATO Travel** - *Book official travel early:* Personnel performing official travel such as COT/RAT leave, TDY, PCS this summer, are urged to book flights even if you do not have orders.

Those who expect to PCS with pets, need to provide the size and weight of the kennel including the pet, and the age, gender and breed of your pet.

*The SATO office has new summer brochures* and offers package deals with departure to Amsterdam, Brussels, Düsseldorf and Maastricht. Also offered are self-drive packages such as Euro-Disney, City-trips and Cruises. Info: visit the SATO office or call DSN 360-7570.

### Sort Center open Saturdays

The 254th Base Support Battalion SORT Center is open every Saturday from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 1:30-4 p.m. Info: DSN 360-7283 or 0031 (0)46-443-7283. The SORT Center is located on Queen Juliana Street, Normal hours of operation are Monday – Friday, 9.-10 a.m. and 2-3 p.m., and now on Saturdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1.30-4 p.m.

### Retirees authorized APO mail facilities

Military retirees residing in the Netherlands are authorized the use of APO mail facilities called R-Box.

For additional information please call commercial 046-443-7279. You may also contact Ron Holland, your retirement services officer at 046-443-7320. Remember, the use of APO mail services is only for United States military retirees who are permanent residents in the Netherlands.

## Tri-border Town hall meeting

The community is invited to attend the 254th Base Support Battalion's Tri-border Town Hall meeting at teh Shinnen Sports Center Feb. 26, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Subject matter experts from all agencies and organizations will be available to address issues and concerns brought up by members of the audience.

## Black History Month - 'The Niagara Movement'

By Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class David M. Williams  
254th BSB Equal Opportunity Advisor

February is Black History Month, or better known as African-American Month. The theme for this year is "The Niagara Movement" in honor of the first African-American meeting held to end racial discrimination, which took place at Niagara Falls, New York in 1905. This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this event, which was the front runner of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

In the summer of 1905, 29 prominent blacks including W.E.B Dubois, met secretly and drew up a manifesto calling for civil liberties, abolishment of racial discrimination and recognition of human brotherhood. Despite the establishment of 30 branches and the achievement of a few scattered civil rights victories at the local level, the group suffered from lack of funds, a permanent headquarters, or staff. The Niagara Movement disbanded in 1910 forming what is known today as the NAACP.

Black History month is a platform to increase the infusion of African-American history and culture into the American society with particular emphasis on elementary and secondary curriculums. There must be eternal vigilance in the struggle to ensure that African-Americans remain strong and in many cases develop belief in the value of themselves. The community must whole-heartedly embrace the concept of African-American contributions to

American society. The insidious institutions of slavery and institutional racism are joined through time. They contribute to the ongoing damage of society greater than any affirmative action program can heal.

### 'Hopefully learning will extend... a quest for knowledge'

"The Black Book" and "Nile Valley Contributions to Civilization" are two books that are recommended for those who are interested in finding out more about Black history.

These books have served as major contributors to the awareness of African-American history and contributions. This is what Black History Month is all about. Hopefully, learning will extend beyond this month and continue Americans on a quest for knowledge about a great culture.

*was a leader in the Abolitionist Movement and the presumed birthday of Frederick Douglass, who Lincoln, who signed the Emancipation Proclamation, month because of two major birthdays -- that of Abraham Lincoln -- potatoes 4. c. Black History month is celebrated this doing research at the university of Idaho on -- what else? Davis developed instant mashed potatoes in 1959 while I. c. Mae Jemison 2. a James Brown 3. c. Dr. William*

Answers:

## Knowledge Test Black Contributions to America

In celebration of Black History Month, I challenge you to test your knowledge of the contributions blacks have made to our nation and our nation's history. How many answers to these Black History questions do you know? Answers are at the bottom of the page.

### 1. Who was the first African-American woman in space?

- a. Patricia Harris c. Mae Jemison  
b. Sally Ride d. Harriet Tubman

### 2. The phrase, "Say it loud, I'm black and I'm proud," was made famous by:

- a. James Brown c. Jesse Jackson  
b. Otis Redding d. Martin Luther King Jr.

### 3. Dr. William C. Davis, chairman of the National Science Separtment at St. Phillips College in San Antonio, developed what?

- a. Laundry flakes c. Instant mashed potatoes  
b. Flavored gelatin d. All of the above

### 4. Why is February Black History Month?

- a. Abraham Lincoln's birthday  
b. Frederick Douglass' birthday  
c. Both

SHAPE / Chièvres Local Calendar

**Job Opportunities brief** is every Wednesday, 9 a.m.-noon, ACS, Bldg. 318, SHAPE.

**Story Time is back** at Chièvres Library, every Thursday afternoon, 4:30-5 p.m.

**New: Family Readiness Group (FRG)** meetings every 2nd Friday of the month from 7-8.30 p.m. at the Prime Time Lounge.

**New ACS class:** "How to Become a Millionaire on Military Pay", March 1, 9-11 a.m., ACS, Building 318, SHAPE. To sign up call DSN 423-4824.

**Red Cross training - CPR/FA classes** provides training in cardiac, choking and respiratory emergencies for adults, children and infants. Training also includes instruction in basic first aid: Feb. 26, 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; March 8-9, 5:30-9:30 p.m.; March 22-23, 5:30-9:30 p.m.

**SHAPE Athletics - Rugby men**, SHAPE vs. Gent, March 6, 2 p.m.; Unit Level Sports. POC, Cisco, DSN 423-8007 or Anja DSN 423-3993; Volleyball season starts March 15; Softball Coaches meeting, March 30, time TBA, season starts April 19.

**SACEUR Sports: 80th ASG Championships**, Feb. 27, Coaches meeting 9 a.m., Game 1 9:30 a.m., Game 2 12:30 p.m., Championship game 3:30 p.m.; **International Indoor Soccer Tournament**, March 5-6, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., SHAPE Main Gym. DSN 423-7654; **Ten-Pin Bowling**, March 24, time TBA; **Monthly Fun Run** at Main gym, March 24, sign up at 12:20 p.m., run starts at 12:30 p.m., POC Cpl. Pitts, DSN 423-3945. Now accepting head coaching resumes for SHAPE men's and women's Softball Team, Info: Steve Richardson, DSN 423-3905.

**Arts and Crafts Centre - Open House**, March 5, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Instructors display and explain classes, skills and crafts. *Children's classes at the during spring recess*, March 28-April 8, with activities for children as young as 3 years. Info and schedule: DSN 423-4680.

**Entertainment Centre news - The SHAPE Players present The Food Chain by Nicky Silver**, Feb. 25-27, 7:30 p.m., Adults over 17 only, Euro 8. Rated R for adult themes and language. *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, Music by Alan Menken, Lyrics by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice; Book by Linda Woolverton, Performances March 10-12, 17-19, 7:30 p.m.; March 12 and 19, 2 p.m.; March 13 and 20, 3 p.m. *Auditions for A Few Good Men*, By Aaron Sorkin, April 11-15. *Advanced Acting Class* by Dan Lamorte, April 18-19, 6-9 p.m., depending on number of participants. Missoula Children's Theatre comes to SHAPE Entertainment May 23-28. Auditions are May 23, 4:30-6:30 p.m.,

at the Entertainment Centre. The performances are May 28, 3 and 7 p.m. We will cast children between the ages of 6-17. Children from all nationalities are welcome. Shape Entertainment Centre Info:

**Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders** on March 15 at 7 p.m. Free show at the Community Activity Center on Chievres Airbase. BOSS will sell food and snacks before the show. Info at DSN 361-5589.

**Prime Time Lounge: St. Patty's Day Party** on March 17. Door opens at 5 p.m. Details at DSN 361-5540. Every Friday at 8.30 p.m. Karaoke, every 2nd Saturday of the month Country Night.

**SHAPE Trips and Tours - On Sale Now** Limited number of Euro Season Passes to Walibi (formerly Six Flags) at the special Pre-Season Promotional Price of Euro 48. Trips: Feb. 26, Birkenstock Factory and leather store; March 4, Comedy Club; March 5, London; March 12, Thermae 2000; March 18, Irish Pub Crawl; March 19 and April 30, Horseback Riding in Chaleux; March 19, Ghent and Brügge; March 20 and April 24, Horseback Riding in Cuesmes; March 25, Luxembourg Encore!; March 26, Paris; March 29 Aqualibi; March 30, Dutch Royal Palace Het Loo and Holland's National Park De Hoge Veluwe; April 1-8, Spain; April 2, Lille; April 5, Han-sur-Lesse; April 9, Fontainebleau; April 11-16, Two Country Shopping Tour; April 16, Delft and Keukenhof; April 17, Rhine River Cruise; April 23, Versailles; April 30-May 2, Castles of the Loire Valley. Bldg. 307, Community Activity Centre, SHAPE. Info: 065 44 3884, DSN 423-3884, Fax 065 84 5154, Email: ST&T@benelux.army.mil.



PHOTO: Dorothy Nevins

Youth Shadow NATO's International Jobs

Left to right, Nicholette Covington, sophomore; Oleg Khorkov, sophomore; Alexander Pchelyakov, sophomore; Logan Quinn, junior; Madison Battersby, sophomore; and Bryan Harris, sophomore, all students at Brussels American School, pose at NATO Headquarters in Brussels on Job Shadow Day, Feb. 3. The U.S. Military Delegation to the NATO Military Committee hosted 10 students originally from the U.S., and several Partnership for Peace nations, including Albania, Bulgaria, Georgia and Russia. Students saw NATO headquarters in action including visits with personnel from the U.S. Mission to NATO, U.S. Military Delegation to NATO Military Committee, the International Military Staff and NATO's Standardization Agency. Ambassador Nick Burns and U.S. Deputy Military Representative Brig. Gen. John Adams met with the students to discuss their roles at NATO.

www.shapeonline.net, DSN 423-3312, 065 44 33 12, email jacqueline.collins@benelux.army.mil. Box Office hours, 2-5:30 p.m.

**ACS Newcomers Briefing:** March 9, 8.30 a.m.-3 p.m., Hotel Le Maisieres. All Newcomer's (military and civilians) are welcome. New date for Take the Bus class is Friday, March 11, 1.30-5 p.m. Starting in April the Newcomers Orientation will be all in the same week, starting with the Newcomer's Brief on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, followed by Take the Bus class on Thursday, Take the Train class on Friday and Cultural Adaptation Trip on Saturday. For details contact ACS at 423-4332.

**SHAPE Child and Youth Services - Spring soccer registration**, through March 4. Sign up early, space limited, DSN 423-3874 or 423-5856; *Spring baseball and softball registration*, through March 11, DSN 423-3874; *Child and Youth Services needs volunteer coaches* for baseball, soccer, softball. Info: DSN 423-5856.

**Spring Bazaar** sponsored by the SAHS Scholarship Committee on March 12 from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. and March 13 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at the SHAPE International School Complex. Info and details at DSN 423-8271.

NSA Brussels Calendar

**NSA Fitness and Sports Center - NSA** basketball tournament Feb. 28-March 9. Call for schedule and info: DSN 368-9667.

**Army Family Advocacy Program (AFAP)** training on March 1, 11.30 a.m.-1.30 p.m. and 6-8 p.m., ACS, Bldg. 4 Conference Room. Info at DSN 368-9643. AFAP Forum on March 8 & 9 from 8.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m. at the Nato Support Activity, Brussels.

**Conflict Resolution course**, March 3, 11 a.m.-noon, NSA Brussels ACS, Bldg.4, second floor conference room. Sign up: DSN 368-9783.

**Parenting Class, Building Courage, Character and Self-Esteem**, March 7, 10 a.m.-noon.; March 14, 21, 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m., NSA Chapel, Fellowship Hall. Sign up: DSN 368-9783.

**NSA Outdoor Recreation day trips:** Antwerpen and Delft blue pottery workshop, March 5; Amsterdam, Ghent and Bruges, March 12; Paris, March 19. Info: DSN 368-9775.

**NSA Education Center - CLEP, DANTES, ECE**, and other tests March 2, 8:30 a.m., Education Center, Bldg. 1. Student consultation, March 4, noon-2 p.m., U.S. Embassy, Brussels, Community Liason Office. Signup or info: DSN 368-9704.

**Free computer classes** at the Community Computer Lab: March 7, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. - Microsoft Word. March 8, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Excel. March 9, 8 a.m.-noon, PowerPoint and Outlook. March 10, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Access. Info at DSN 368-9783.

**Volunteer of the Year nomination** deadline for NSA Volunteer of the Year is March 1. Deadline to submit nominations for the Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony is March 18. Volunteer Advisory Council Meeting, March 24, 1-3 p.m. DSN 368-9679.

**Right Arm Night - March 4**, 5-7 p.m., 3-Star Lounge, DSN 368-9822.

**Next Metro Madness Class:** March 18, 9.25 a.m.-2.30 p.m., ACS. DSN 368-9729.



Meteor-Heraut Deadline and Publication Dates

| Copy due (noon) | Print Date | Copy due (noon) | Print Date | Copy due (noon) | Print Date | Copy due (noon) | Print Date |
|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
| Feb. 28         | March 11   | March 28        | April 8    | April 25        | May 6      | May 23          | June 3     |
| March 14        | March 25   | April 11        | April 22   | May 9           | May 20     | June 6          | June 17    |

About Us  
Meteor-Heraut

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Policy

- We encourage letters to the editor, but they must be signed. We will consider withholding the name of the author upon request. Letters regarding an issue should contribute to informational interest.
  - We reserve the right to edit all material for style, to fit available space, to resolve libel, safety or force protection issues and to correct grammar.
  - Articles in plain text and separate photographic files may be submitted but publication depends upon the judgment of the editor. All submissions should be in electronic form as plain text. We cannot process information in documents such as PowerPoint, Excel or Acrobat.
  - Event announcements must use civilian dates and times. Spell out acronyms and include a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. We cannot reproduce prepared flyers in the Meteor-Heraut.
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  - The appearance of advertising, including inserts, does not constitute

endorsement of the products or services offered. Everything advertised must be available for purchase, use or patronage, without discrimination.

- Any gambling or lottery requiring payment for chance cannot be advertised as stated in 18 U.S.C. 1302.

Deadline

Copy and photographs are due by noon 10 calendar days before publication date.

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Lt. Col. Richard S. Richardson ..... 254th Base Support Battalion  
Lt. Col. Jon M. Davis Jr. .... NATO Support Activity  
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Laurri Garcia ..... 254th Base Support Battalion  
Rick Haverinen ..... Writer  
J.D. Hardesty ..... Writer  
Sylvia Bowron.....Writer



# Crossage 'Cholette!!!' de Chièvres

City's retail businesses close as everything in streets hammered

By Rick Haverinen

What's the attraction of pounding a wooden ball through the streets of Chièvres with a large mallet?

Easy. Having a good time, according to one American who played the Belgian game of crossage Feb. 9.

"A bunch of my buddies had done it in the past," said Dave Conlan, a civilian employee of 39th Signal Bn., "and they said, 'Why don't you come out and bat the ball around town and stop and talk with the Belgians?' Basically it's an afternoon to spend out drinking in the bars making the stops."

Crossage is probably the medieval ancestor of golf, but with more Hulk Hogan brute strength than Tiger Woods finesse. It's a little like croquet on steroids and done something like this: two small teams compete to see which can first slam a wooden ball into a metal beer keg outside a bar entrance; the losing team buys a round of beers for

the winners; repeat.

"It's just a matter of counting the strokes," Conlan said. "Maybe one team will take six strokes, to get (to the target) because after a few strokes the other team gets to hit your ball in the opposite direction. So if you're going down the street heading north, looking for a keg, and after your allotted number of hits per hole, the other team gets to take your ball and send it south, so you have to come back and make up that ground."

The oak balls, called cholettes, are not exactly round. They're oblong, which can

make them bounce in crazy directions. This is happening right downtown. All cars have been parked very far away and townspeople elaborately cover windows with anything within reach to protect them. Conlan estimated hundreds played crossage in Chièvres, so



PHOTOS: Rick Haverinen

The cholette



One city resident peers around the corner to see how the game is going and if it's safe to cross the street. An estimated 200 crossage players of all ages took over the avenues and alleyways of Chièvres for the annual game.



Conlan

well-hammered cholettes were zinging anyplace you might walk.

"Some roads get pretty dangerous because you've got guys going down and coming back, and wood balls are flying," Conlan said, "and you've got to jump out there in the middle of the street, take your hit and get out. You'll get in some alleys and at any given time you'll have five or six balls being hit. You're supposed to yell, 'Cholette!' when you hit

the ball, which means to look out. So everybody's ducking and moving and jumping over the balls. When the alleys are narrow, there's really no place to go. And then you have the other roads where the fields go off on either side so the ball gets whacked, and all of a sudden you're in a field. So it makes for a very interesting afternoon."

Conlan said the camaraderie with friends is the real attraction.

His group was named "Team U.S.A.," and he said many of the Belgians seemed pleased to detect American English being spoken in the streets. The equipment is modestly priced and can be pre-ordered at any bar along the route.

Conlan first played the game last year, and said he regrets he hadn't tried it earlier.

"As long as I'm here, I'll go out and do this every year now," Conlan said.

## You could be a youngster's Bobby Bradley.

By Lt. Col. Scott Glass

Have you heard of a man named Bobby Bradley? If you're not from Greene County, Georgia, or if you haven't spent a lot of your life in the dairy farming business, chances are that you have not. But if you played on the 1970 Greene County Braves Little League baseball team, you know who he is... and chances are you are still influenced by his values and love of the game of baseball.

I was on that Greene County Braves baseball team in 1970. Bobby Bradley was the coach. He taught me a love and understanding of the game of baseball that is still with me now. He also taught me a lot about life that I remember to this day.



Coach Bradley's method was not magic. He told us why we were going to do something, showed us the right way to do it, and then had us practice it until we got it right. He told us why we should watch the base coaches all the time (they can see things that you don't, right?), why you should always tag a runner as low as you can (no one can go anywhere without their feet,

right?), and why catchers should always keep their mask on (for protection, right?). You can really influence a young person if you take time to explain what you want, show them how to do it, and give them a few tips how to do it better.

Coach Bradley ran a dairy farm and milked all those cows twice a day, every day. He worked hard, but he was never too busy to hold practice. Coach was never too tired to throw batting practice to all of us. (Try throwing 20 pitches each to 12-15 boys in the mid-summer Georgia heat and humidity.) If anyone needed extra work on hitting, he stayed and threw pitches to them until they could no longer hold the bat. I know, because I was one of those kids. I'll bet Coach Bradley's arm is still sore from throwing all that batting practice.

Our superstars on that team were Sammy Easley, Ben Hood, Tony Parker, and Rob Durham. They played about as many innings and got about as many at-bats as the rest of us did, no more, no less. Robert Bradley, Coach Bradley's son, was also a great player, but he played about the same as the rest of us. The Coach played no favorites.

I begged Coach Bradley for a chance to play catcher in a game. That was somewhat of a problem. Sammy Easley played there and was about the best fielding and hitting catcher in Greene County. When he didn't catch, then Robert Bradley played catcher and did well. But I wanted to play catcher, and I kept bugging Coach Bradley about it. Coach Bradley came up with a solution.



PHOTO: Courtesy Bobby Bradley

After Bobby Bradley finished his playing America's pasttime, he turned to coaching youth. Inset: Bradley is 81 years old and is retired from coaching and the dairy life.

He told me that if I was willing to work hard at it, I would get a chance to catch in a game. He stayed after practices and worked with me on my footwork, blocking the plate, and throwing to other bases. He worked up a pouring sweat doing it, and then he went home to his dairy and started milking cows. Each day after practice. Every day he milked cows. Twice a day.

True to his word, Coach Bradley told me about four days before the end of the season that I was going to catch the last game. The opponent was going to be the Greene County Indians, and they were better than we were. Yet Coach Bradley, win or lose, was going to keep his word. I don't think I slept for four nights in a row.

I remember it so well, even now after nearly 35 years. I remember the glare of the lights for that night game at Union Point ballpark. I can

still feel the sting in the mitt of the first pitch Sammy Easley threw to me (Sammy could pitch, too). I can still taste the red clay dust in my mouth when I tagged Charles Grissom out in a home plate collision. We both tasted red clay dust, but since I kept my catcher's mask on like Coach Bradley had taught me to do, I think Charles tasted a lot more red clay dust than I did. I can still hear Coach Bradley saying "Good job, Scotty!" because he knew I needed to hear that. And I can still see Coach Bradley nodding when I asked him after every third out if I could catch another inning.

We won the game, not by much, but enough. Those sweltering wool uniforms, leather trouser belts, and striped socks pulled up high are things of the past now. The field where I caught that last game of the season is overgrown and no longer used. Coach Bradley is now 81 years old and a retired dairy farmer with grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

But the skills that Coach Bradley taught me about the game of baseball are a metaphor for life. In his textbook, you learned about working hard for something, about the value of sweat, about keeping your word, and doing your best. Those life lessons have stayed with me for all these years... and I am sure that those lessons have stayed with Sammy, Rob, Tony, Robert and all the rest of the team, too. I think I will go read his "book" again, right after I call him in Greene County, Georgia, and tell him, "Thanks, Coach Bradley."

Consider volunteering to be a coach or assistant for a youth baseball team. If you have children old enough to play, register them for fun memories and values education that that will last them for years. Youth Services needs players, team coaches and assistants for the upcoming baseball season.

Contact YS Sports in your community: SHAPE, DSN 423-5856; Schinnen, DSN 364-3008; and NATO Support Activity, DSN 368-9649.

If you can teach the love and skills of the game, and maybe a few lessons about life, you can be the next Bobby Bradley to a team of deserving young players.

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Glass